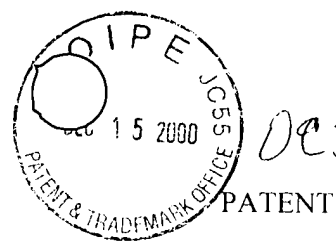


Attorney Docket No.: 5665.400-US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Nørregaard-Madsen et al.

Serial No.: 09/652,743

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: August 31, 2000

Examiner: To be assigned

For: Novel Proteases and Variants Thereof

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

Box DD
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

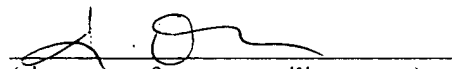
1. Information Disclosure Statement
2. PTO-1449 Form
3. Copy of References

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

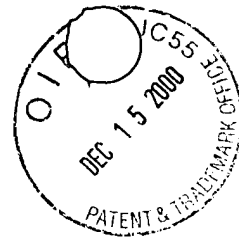
Box DD
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on December 13, 2000.

Kelley O'Patry
(name of person mailing paper)


(signature of person mailing paper)

Attorney Docket No.: 5665.400-US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Nørregaard-Madsen et al.

Application No.: 09/652743

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: August 31, 2000

Examiner: To be assigned

For: Novel Proteases and Variants Thereof

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

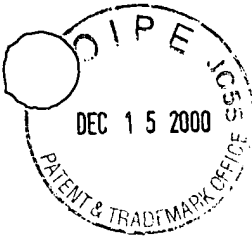
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith references which they believe may be material to the patentability of this application and with respect to which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

While the references may be "material" under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that the references are "prior art" unless specifically designated as such.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that no other material references than those listed exist or that a search has been conducted.

The references are listed in Form PTO-1449 which is in accordance with the requirements of M.P.E.P. 609. A copy of the references is also enclosed. The references are as follows:

1. EP 0 369 817 B1
2. EP 0 251 446 B1
3. WO 96/4946
4. WO 91/13553
5. US 4,266,031

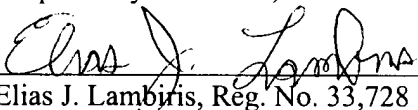
- 
6. EP 0 482 879 B1
 7. EP 0 130 756
 8. Sloma et al, "Gene Encoding a Novel Extracellular Metalloprotease in *Bacillus subtilis*," 1990, American Society for Microbiology.
 9. Siezen et al, " Subtilases: The superfamily of subtilisin-like serine proteases" 1997, The protein society.
 10. Rufo et al, "Isolation and Characterization of a Novel Extracellular Metalloprotease from *Bacillus subtilis*," 1990, American Society for Microbiology.

It is respectfully requested that these references be considered by the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of the above-identified application and be made of record therein. The Examiner is also invited to contact the Undersigned if there are any questions concerning this paper or the attached references.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed **within** three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or **before** the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). Therefore, no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 13, 2000


Elias J. Lambiris, Reg. No. 33,728
Novo Nordisk of North America, Inc.
405 Lexington Avenue, Suite 6400
New York, NY 10174-6401
(212) 867-0123